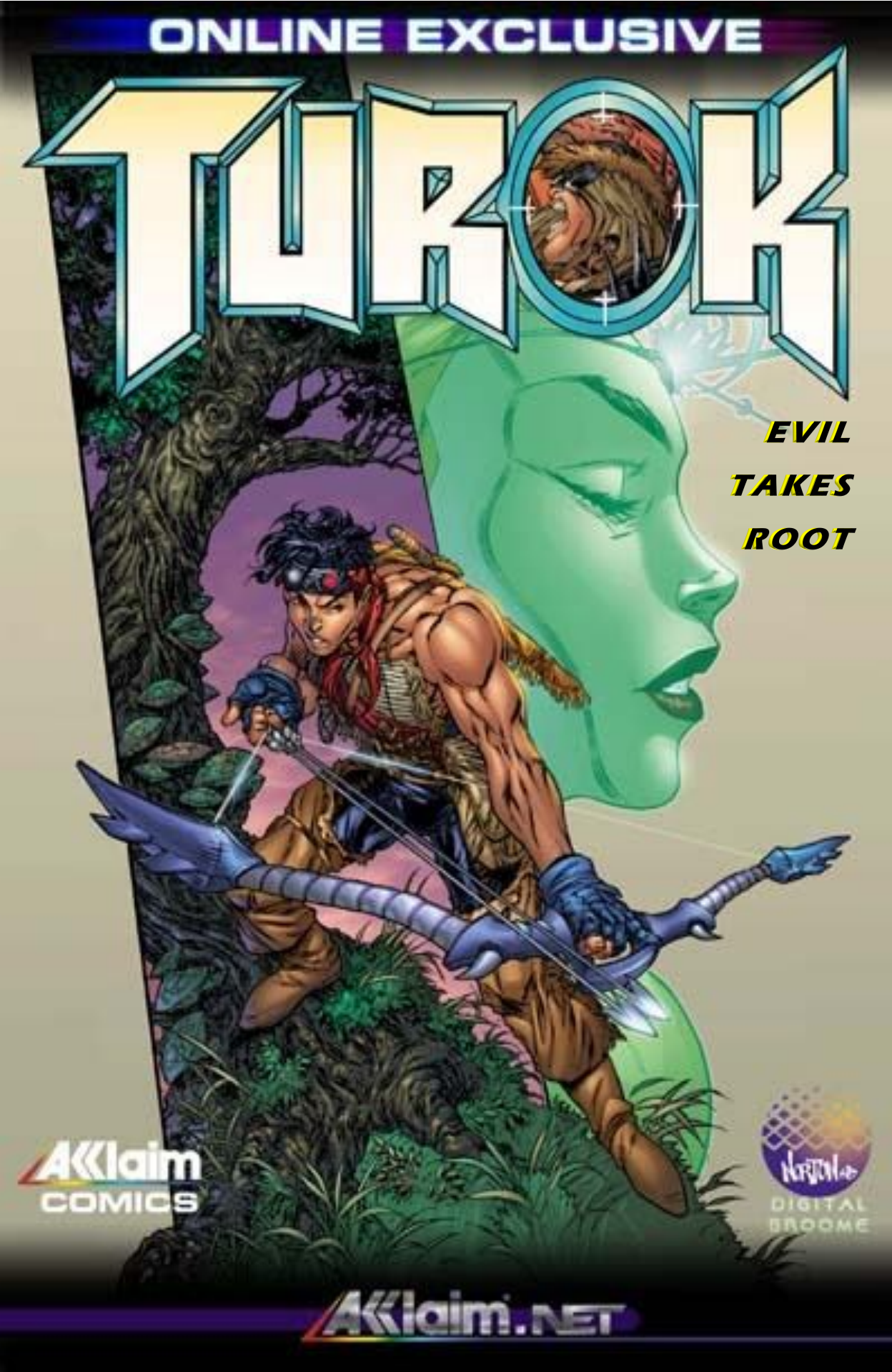
ONLINE EXCLUSIVE
TUROK
EVIL
TAKES
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EVIL TAKES ROOT

PLOT: FABIEN NICIEZA

ART: DAN NORTON

COLOR: DIGITAL BROOM

CHAPTER ONE: BEFORE THE FIRE

PUBLISHED AUGUST 18, 1998

CHAPTER TWO: UNEASY ALLIES

PUBLISHED AUGUST 25, 1998

CHAPTER THREE: BORN TO BURN

PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 1, 1998

ARCHIVER'S NOTE:

Evil Takes Root was originally uploaded to the turok.com website in late 1998. It served as a prequel to Turok 2: Seeds of Evil. Unfortunately, only three chapters were released, meaning that the story ends in an unresolved cliffhanger. The website went offline in 2001, but I managed to download the jpegs before they disappeared forever. (There was no Wayback Machine back then, and there's a lot of missing media waiting to be rediscovered on some dusty hard drive somewhere.)

Being an early webcomic designed to be read over a dial-up connection, it was uploaded panel by panel, as opposed to a traditional full page layout. I've formatted the panels into a readable comic form. Enjoy!

—B. DANMUM, 2026

CHAPTER ONE BEFORE THE FIRE

"IT WAS, AS ALL BATTLES ARE, A BLOODY DANCE OF DEATH.
"THE CAMPAIGNER WOULD NEITHER RELINQUISH HIS HOLD ON THE CHRONOSCEPTER --
"-- OR HIS ARTIFICIAL LIFE.
"BUT THEN, CAUGHT IN THE RED HAZE OF THE FIGHT --"

"-- WHO WAS I TO DENIGRATE ANYONE *ELSE'S* LACK OF HUMANITY?
SHAZAKK
"THE *ATOMIC AX* SLICED CLEANLY THROUGH THE ROBOT'S ARM.
"SEVERING THE CAMPAIGNER'S GRIP ON THE CHRONOSCEPTER..
"...AND FOR A SHORT TIME, MY OWN GRIP ON *CONSCIOUSNESS*.
"I AWOKE TO THE WRENCHING SOUND OF GRINDING GEARS AND SIZZLING METAL."

"WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO STOP THIS CREATURE?
"TO WHAT LENGTHS ARE THE *TUROK* WILLING TO GO IN ORDER TO WIN OUR BATTLES...IN ORDER TO SURVIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY?
"I CHOSE FOR MYSELF.
"IT WAS AS IF HE...IT... HAD NEVER EXISTED.
"BUT I WAS LEFT HOLDING ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS IN THE UNIVERSE.
"I HELD THE UNIMAGINABLE ENERGIES OF THE CHRONOSCEPTER IN MY HANDS...
"...AND I *UNLEASHED THEM!*
KRYEEKOW
"FAR BE IT FOR ONE MAN TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO WITH SUCH DESTRUCTIVE POWER..."
"THE CAMPAIGNER WAS OBLITERATED ON BOTH AN *ATOMIC* AND *TEMPORAL* LEVEL.

THEY LISTENED TO TAL'SET'S STORY AND LOOKED AT THE WEAPON WITH AWE AND RESPECT.
THEY ARE PART OF A LINEAGE -- A BREED OF WARRIORS -- WHO HAVE FOUGHT WITH ADVANCED ALIEN ARMAMENT FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.
...AND THAT IS WHY I CALLED THIS GATHERING OF TUROKS!
BUT THIS CHRONO-SCEPTER -- A DEVICE WHICH ERADICATES A TARGET'S MOLECULAR IMPRINT ACROSS THE TIMESTREAM...
...IT IS INTIMIDATING EVEN FOR THOSE HARDENED VETERANS.
YANIK FIRESEED, THE FRAGMENT SON
CARL FIRSEEED, THE SECONDARY
GREYHAWK FIRESSED, THE WARSLAVE
A'KROS, A'LYN, A'SYNT, THE THREE POINTS
KA'DAHN, THE SOFTWIND
Hmm.
WHAT?
LIGHTER THAN I EXPECTED.
WHICH MEANS IT WAS DESIGNED TO BE USED.
ARAM FIRESSED, THE GREYWALKER

JUST LIKE THAT?
DAD, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN AFRAID TO USE HEAVY ARTILLERY.
NO, HE HASN'T, KID.
YOUR OLD MAN JUST KNOWS LIFE'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN "POINT AND SHOOT."
THE CHRONO-SCEPTER CAN...
FRAGMENT TIME. THAT COULD SEVERELY DAMAGE...
THE STABILITY OF THE LOST LAND...
ARAM. YOUR POINT OF VIEW IS APPRECIATED. BUT I DISAGREE WITH IT.
THE CHRONO-SCEPTER MUST BE DESTROYED. THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING ME IN MY DREAM-STATE.
I SHALL ATTEND TO THIS INFERNAL DEVICE...
JINK JINK JINK
...AS SOON AS I HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO...
...REST...

TO BE CONTINUED....

CHAPTER TWO UNEASY ALLIES

NOW...
100
10
YER OUT!
NICE PLAY, JOSH.
THANKS, COACH. GOOD END TO A BAD DAY.
REMEMBER THE...PROBLEM WITH THE GIRL I TOLD YOU ABOUT?
SHE REFUSES TO TAKE A BLOOD TEST.
WELL, BETWEEN WHAT YOU CAN DO ON A BASEBALL FIELD --
-- AND WHAT YOU CAN DO AS TUROK --
-- YOU'RE A WALKING TARGET FOR SOMEONE TRYING TO BLACKMAIL YOU...
...SEE ME IN MY OFFICE AFTER YOU SHOWER. WE'LL TALK SOME MORE.

CONSIDERING THE TROUBLES YOU'VE HAD WITH YOUR FAMILY AND THE SOLIDARITY ORDER THE LAST FEW MONTHS --
-- COMBINED WITH THE FACT YOU CAN'T REMEMBER THIS NANCY CARTER GIRL --
-- I ASKED SOME OF MY CONTACTS TO SEE IF SHE'S BEEN PLANTED TO BLACKMAIL YOU.
AND YOU GOT?
BUPKISS. I MAY BE A DISGUISED DINOSOID, BUT NO ONE IN THE ORDER TRUSTS ME.
THEY THINK I'M TOO INSIDE WITH YOU.
ARE YOU?
LET'S JUST SAY I AGREE WITH THE SHORT-TERM DECISION YOU MADE TO DESTROY THE UNIFICATION BRIDGE IN THE LOST LAND --
-- BUT AS A MEMBER OF THE ORDER FOR OVER 100 YEARS, I ALSO AGREE WITH THE LONG-TERM GOALS OF MERGING GALYANNA AND EARTH.
AND A GREAT PLAN IT WOULD MAKE ONCE THE KINKS GET WORKED OUT...
...FOR EXAMPLE, KILLING HALF THE PEOPLE ON EARTH TO DO IT!
YOUR BAG'S ON FIRE.
Huh?!
JINK JINK
THIS ISN'T GOOD...
POP

DIDN'T EXPECT TO BE INVITED HERE SO SOON...
...BUT NEXT TIME, MAYBE YOU COULD ASK BEFORE YOU YANK ME INTO THE *LOST LAND*?
TZZKZZKK
I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT, JOSHUA.
YOUR PRESENCE HERE IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE, OR ELSE THE **COUNCIL OF VOICES** WOULD NOT HAVE ACTED AS THEY DID.
MAYBE ONCE, *ADON*, WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER WHEN THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE ISN'T ON THE LINE?

I -- I WOULD LIKE THAT VERY MUCH --
TKZZ
JOSHUA FIRESEED, THE TUROK KNOWN AS COYOTE KNIGHT, THE ACTIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY ONE OF YOUR PREDECESSORS WILL WREAK HAVOC ON GALYANNA.
I HATE WHEN YOU POSSESS HER LIKE THAT! AND I HATE IT EVEN MORE WHEN YOU MAKE NO SENSE --
-- HOW CAN A TUROK WHO CAME BEFORE ME BE IN THE PROCESS OF TAKING AN ACTION WHICH *WILL* AFFECT THE LOST LAND?
DO NOT SEEK TO DEFINE GALYANNA IN LINEAR TERMS. SUCH ENDEAVOR IS FOLLY.

Tal'SET. THE VALIANT ONE. THE BEST YOUR LINEAGE HAS OR WILL OFFER. IN THE WAKE OF HIS GREATEST TRIUMPHS. WILL COMMIT ONE OF HIS GRAVEST MISTAKES.
HE WILL ATTEMPT TO DESTROY AN INCREDIBLE WEAPON. SHOULD HE SUCCEED, HE WILL UNWITTINGLY UNLEASH ENERGIES WHICH COULD RESULT IN THE ANNIHILATION OF GALYANNA.
YEAH, AND YOUR UNIFICATION BRIDGE WAS STILL 200 YEARS AWAY FROM DOING THAT ANYWAY. WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO STEAL YOUR THUNDER, Huh?

-- AT THE MOUNTAIN OF THE SUN, THE HOME OF THE FIREBORN!
THE METALLURGICAL ELEMENTS OF THE CHRONOSCEPTER CAN ONLY BE DESTROYED BY EXTREME HEAT. THE TEMPERATURES NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE TASK MAY ONLY BE FOUND --
OKAY -- ASSUMING FOR A MINUTE THAT I TRUST EVERYTHING YOU'RE SAYING IS TRUE --
-- YOU'RE SAYING I HAVE TO STOP THE BEST TUROK WHO EVER LIVED --
-- OR WILL LIVE -- AND I ALSO HAVE TO DO IT IN THE HARSHEST REGION IN ALL OF THE LOST LAND?
YES.
Oh, OKAY THEN... IN THAT CASE...
...THE WEAPON OF CHOICE WOULD BE...
...THIS!
SO, WHEN DO I --
30

TO BE CONTINUED....

CHAPTER THREE BORN TO BURN

--START --
-- WARN A GUY NEXT TIME, OKAY?! JEEZ, IT'S HOT OUT HERE!
HMM. HADN'T NOTICED.
FZZZZMMMM
YOU'RE MADE OUT OF BIOELECTRIC ENERGY. DUH!
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING?
THE HEART OF FIRE TALISMAN.
JINK JINK JINK
WORKS SORT OF LIKE A PERSONAL AIR CONDITIONER.
I SEE THAT TAL'SET IS NOT HERE YET.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
IF HE WERE, WOULD NOT THE TALISMAN BE DRAPED AROUND HIS NECK AND UNAVAILABLE FOR YOU TO USE?
GOOD POINT. THE LIGHT BURDEN DOESN'T DUPLICATE STUFF.
OKAY, ADVANTAGE US. SO WE WAIT FOR HIM TO SHOW UP AND STOP HIM?

I HAVE A FEELING THEY'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT PLAN...
SSSS THHSSSS
WHAT NOW?
THEY ARE THE FIREBORN.
AN EXPERIMENTALLY MUTATED RACE OF DINOSOIDS WHO EVOLVED INTO SENTIENT BEINGS OF PURE LAVA.
FLUBCRUKL BLUBKRRKKK
YOU DON'T SAY?
AND DON'T LET ME -- THEY TEND TO NOT BE VERY FRIENDLY, RIGHT?
RIGHT.
GRRRMMMM
JUNK JUNK
OKAY, LET'S SEE HERE... FUSION CANNON...
NO
...PLASMA ION FLUX PULSE RIFLE...
NO
...SWISS ARMY KNIFE...
NO --
Aha --!

ARCLIGHT COLD FUSION GENERATOR!
SHYEEEEKOW
THE GENERATOR FREEZES THEM AND A BULLET (OR FIFTY) FINISHES THEM OFF!
PPPAPPPP
KCH!K
KCH!K
KCH!K
KCH!K
KCH!K
I FIGURE A "GROUP FLOW" PROBABLY CAN'T BE STOPPED, BUT THEY CAN BE SLOWED DOWN!
YOU CAN ADMIT HOW IMPRESSED YOU ARE...

INDEED I AM, JOSHUA... BUT MOSTLY BY YOUR STUPIDITY!
BECAUSE EACH INDIVIDUAL AMULET OF A DISPERSED FIREBORN CAN DRAW FROM THE MAGMA PERMEATING GROUNDSOIL --
-- AND IN TURN BECOME AN INDEPENDENT FOCI
WELL, YOU COULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING!
YOU COULD HAVE ASKED.
OKAY, I'LL ASK NOW -- WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE HAVE A GAJILLION FIREBORN BEHIND US PROTECTING THEIR HOME --
-- AND THAT IN FRONT OF US?!

To Be Continued...

Come back next Turok Tuesday to get the next installment!